



**LABURNUM**

PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

CHALLENGE • ACHIEVE • RESPECT • EFFORT

# **Oak Class Parent Briefing**

**Miss Wright – Oak Class Teacher**

# The Oak Class Team

Miss Wright



Mrs Milne



Mrs Fisher



# Communications



- Please contact us in person or on Class Dojo if you have any questions or concerns – we are here to help.
- Class Dojo messages should be sent to Class Teachers (Teaching Assistants have access, but will not respond to messages).
- Class Dojo – messages sent outside of the core hours of 8am – 5:30pm may not be responded to until the next working day.
- All issues should be addressed with your child’s Class Teacher initially.
- Issues raised with the school office or a senior leader will usually be passed back to the Class Teacher first.
- Our full Communications Policy is available on our school website.



# Curriculum Overview – National Curriculum

- We have an exciting and full year of learning ahead – full details are available on the school website.
- Highlights this term:
  - English: Pig Heart Boy, Shackleton's Journey
  - Maths: Place Value, Arithmetic
  - Science: Evolution & Inheritance, Electricity
  - Art & Design: Re-designing food packaging
  - Computing: Computing systems & networks, creating media (3D modelling)
  - Design Technology: Mechanisms (vehicles)
  - French: In the classroom
  - Geography: Greece/Athens (Europe and the Study of a Country/Region)
  - History: Ancient Greece
  - Music: O2 Young Voices singing practise, Ukeleles
  - Physical Education: Gymnastics, team games
  - Relationship & Health Education: Me and my relationships, valuing differences
  - Religious Education: Creation & Science, Islamic values
  - Values: Respect and friendship



# Current Timetable

- This is subject to change according to the needs of your children)

	8.45 – 9.05	9.05 – 9.40	9.40 – 10.45	10.45-11	11-12	12-1	1-1.10	1.10-2.10	2.10-3.10	3.10-3.30
<b>Monday</b>	Morning Activity	Spelling Investigation	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Silent Reading	PE (EW)	Art/DT	Singing & Musical Appreciation Assembly
<b>Tuesday</b>	Morning Activity	SPaG	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Silent Reading	RE	Computing	Picture News Assembly
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Activity	Spelling Go Grapheme Grafters	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Silent Reading	Science	French	Picture News Assembly
<b>Thursday</b>	Morning Activity	SPaG	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Silent Reading (SH)	Music (SH)	PE (SH)	Values Assembly
<b>Friday</b>	Morning Activity	Homework	Arithmetic & Online Platforms (Computer Room)	Break	English	Lunch	Silent Reading	Geography/History	PSHE	Celebration Assembly



# Maths

- The daily mathematics lesson lasts approximately sixty minutes. There is a great emphasis on children talking about mathematics and on using mathematical vocabulary.
- Children who have mastered their times tables gain a solid foundation in mathematics that will help them throughout their progression within the subject. The national expectation is that every child must be able to answer any times table question mentally by the end of Year 4.
- All children in Year 6 are expected to practise their times tables regularly as part of their home learning. Children do not need to sit down for extended periods to learn their times tables – 5 minutes practice every day is enough.



# English

- Reading and writing skills are taught through sequences of English lessons. Each English teaching sequence begins with reading a text and completing activities to ensure children have a secure understanding of the text and can talk about its features.
- Children will be given opportunities to write texts similar to those they have read and where possible be given writing tasks for real purposes e.g. writing to an author. During each writing task the children will have opportunities to plan, write and edit.
- Children in Year 6 need to: Revise vocabulary and grammar skills taught in Year 5.





# Home Learning Expectations - Year 5 & 6

- Children are expected to practise core skills every week:
  - Reading - ideally daily, but at least 3 times a week.
  - Maths skills rehearsed using tasks set online on Sumdog.
  - Embedding multiplication and division facts, up to 12x12, recalled in any order at speed (online using Sumdog/ TT Rockstars).
- In Year 6, homework takes the form of SATs revision tasks in CGP books. Every Friday, the children will be set one or two pages from one of the study guides to complete for homework, which links to what they have been learning that week.
- Children should learn and rehearse the information sent home on knowledge organisers.





# Home Learning Expectations - Year 5 & 6

- As part of our new spelling scheme in school for years 2 to 6, we will no longer be sending home the traditional weekly spelling lists to learn. We will be focussing on investigating spelling patterns, looking for rules and proving/disproving them as well as exploring different strategies to remember unusual spellings – of which there are so many in the English language.
- Teachers will still share with you what the focus is on Dojo so you can still look at the rule/pattern should you wish to but they will not be tested weekly. Some children find the weekly tests incredibly stressful and it has caused conflict at home, some children simply didn't learn them and others didn't need to. This way, we can support and extend children more efficiently as needed.
- Classes may still have the occasional spelling check in class or be sent home subject words to learn as part of their homework.



# Reading

- All learning becomes more easily accessible when you read fluently. It allows you to focus on comprehension and taking on board what the information is, whether that be a story, poem, recipe or information.
- KS2 children should be reading daily although perhaps not always to an adult.

## TEN AMAZING BENEFITS OF READING BOOKS



- Strengthens your writing skills
- Improves your memory and focus
- Enhances your imagination
- Increases your vocabulary
- Expands your knowledge
- Stimulates your brain
- Boosts your mood
- Deepens empathy
- Helps you relax
- Lowers stress

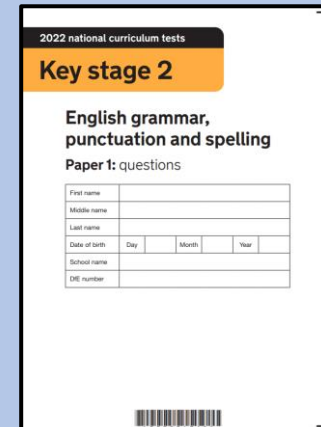
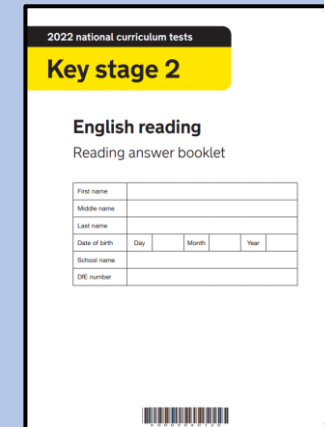
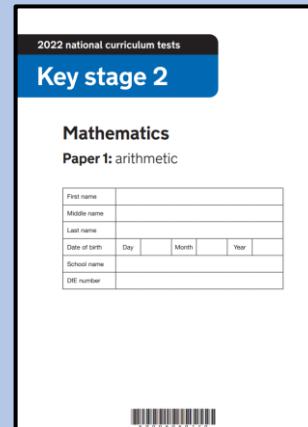


# Statutory Assessment from the DfE

- End of Key Stage 2 Assessments:

- Tests in English (Reading & Grammar, Punctuation and spelling)
- Tests in Maths (Arithmetic, Problem Solving & Reasoning)
- Teacher Assessment of Writing
- Assesses achievement at the end of Key Stage 2.
- Papers are marked by outside markers and results reported to the Local Authority, DfE and Ofsted.

- Take place from 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023.



# Uniform Expectations: Year 3-6

- All children are expected to wear the correct school uniform:
  - Grey shorts/ trousers/ skirt or pinafore dress
  - Plain white shirt and school tie
  - School jumper or cardigan with school logo
  - Sensible black shoes (not trainers)
  - Grey socks or tights
  - In the Summer Term, navy blue and white checked gingham dresses may be worn
- Sports and PE Kit:
  - School sports shirt (navy and red) with school logo, navy shorts or jogging bottoms, navy socks, plimsolls or trainers. School jumpers, fleeces or plain navy blue jumpers may also be worn on PE days.



*Please contact us if you need help – we do have some very good quality second hand uniform available at a very low cost.*

# PE and Physical Activity

- All classes Y1-6 have two PE sessions a week. Children should come to school in their PE kit on these days. Our class PE days are:
  - **Monday & Thursday**
- In addition to PE lessons, we expect all children to engage in additional physical activity. This can be in their play, but also through specific activities such as, 'The Golden Mile,' which takes place most days and builds fitness and stamina for all children.



# Health and Safety

- For safety reasons children should not wear jewellery in school. If your child has pierced ears, then studs only are accepted.
- A child may wear a watch, but the school cannot accept responsibility for it.
- Long hair (shoulder length or longer) should be tied back with red or navy bands.





# Food & Drinks (snacks and lunchtimes)

- No nuts or foods containing nuts.
- Healthy Snacks:
  - Provided for all children in N-Y2, but children may also bring their own snack.
  - Not provided Y3-6. Children are encourage to bring their own snack.
  - All snacks must be a piece of raw fruit or vegetable – no other snacks will be permitted.
- Water Bottles:
  - All children should bring a water bottle – this should contain water only.
- Lunch:
  - Reception – Year 2 may have a funded school meal or a packed lunch.
  - Year 3-6 – school meals are no longer funded – consider applying for Free School Meals.
  - Packed lunches should be balanced and healthy and contain no more than one cake/chocolate item.





# Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

- Contact Central Bedfordshire Council if you think you might be eligible:

## Qualifying benefits to receive free school meals

The qualifying benefits to receive free school meals for children in Year 3 and over are:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

## How to apply for free school meals

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call us on **0300 300 8306**. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- dates of birth for your children
- if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

**Central  
Bedfordshire**



# Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

- All children eligible for Free School Meals receive:
  - An individual plan to support learning,
  - Reduced price school visits,
  - Free Milk at morning break (if requested),
  - Free School Lunches,
  - A yearly uniform voucher,
  - Free access to Breakfast Club every day,
  - Reduced price after school clubs,
  - A termly book linked to in-class learning (to keep forever)
  - Additional support in discussion with the Class Teacher and Pupil Premium Lead (Mrs Dawes).



# Educational Visits this year:

- Spring Term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – O2 Young Voices
- Summer Term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – PGL (Caythorpe Court)

*Children eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant (Free School Meals) pay reduced costs for school visits – we want all children to take part, so please contact the school office or your child's class teacher if the cost of a school visit is causing an issue for you.*

**Payment plans are set up for all residential visits as these are more expensive.**



# Internet Safety

- Within school we have strict filters on our computers that help block inappropriate sites for the children. The children are frequently reminded of Internet Safety Rules. We urge parents to keep a close eye on the internet usage that children access at home. Children will not use Social Media sites in school, as primary school children are too young to be accessing them.
- Additional information and resources:
  - CEOP: [www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk)
  - A guide to using Whatsapp safely: [Internet-Matters-Guide-Whatsapp Infographic.pdf \(internetmatters.org\)](#)
  - Think U Know: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
  - Childnet: [www.childnet-int.org](http://www.childnet-int.org)



# Applying for secondary school

- During September and October, schools hold their open events for prospective parents and children.
- You need to apply before 31 October 2022, even if your child already attends a feeder school and you live in the catchment area.
- For more information please visit:

[School admissions | Central Bedfordshire Council](#)

